What is claimed is:

1.   A method for caching a network connection, comprising the steps of:

        receiving a connection request for at least one first connection between at least one terminal and a server;

5   establishing the at least one first connection between the at least one terminal and the server;

        requesting at least one second connection between the server and at least one end device;

        establishing the at least one second connection; and

10   maintaining a record of the at least one second connection established.

2.   The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of receiving a disconnection request for the at least one first connection from the at least one terminal.

3.   The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of disconnecting the at least one first connection.

15 4. The method of claim 3, further comprising the step of sustaining the at least one second connection after the at least one first connection has been disconnected.

5.   The method of claim 1, wherein the record is a list of established second connections.

6.   A system for caching a network connection, comprising:

20   connection request receiving means for receiving a connection request for at least one first connection between at least one terminal and a server;

-38-

connection establishing means for establishing the at least one first connection between the at least one terminal and the server;

connection requesting means for requesting at least one second connection between the server and at least one end device;

5   connection establishing means for establishing the at least one second connection; and

maintaining means for maintaining a record of the at least one second connection established.

7.   The system of claim 6, further comprising disconnection request receiving means

10   for receiving a disconnection request for the at least one first connection from the at least one terminal.

8.   The system of claim 7, further comprising disconnecting means for disconnecting the at least one first connection.

9.   The system of claim 8, further comprising connection sustaining means for

15   sustaining the at least one second connection after the at least one first connection has been disconnected.

10.   The system of claim 6, wherein the record is a list of established second connections.

11.   A system for caching a network connection, comprising:

20   a connection request receiving module that receives a connection request for at least one first connection between at least one terminal and a server;

a connection establishing module that establishes the at least one first connection between the at least one terminal and the server;

a connection requesting module that requests at least one second connection between the server and at least one end device;

5   a connection establishing module that establishes the at least one second connection; and

a connection maintaining module that maintains a record of the at least one second connection established.

12.   The system of claim 11, further comprising a disconnection request receiving 10   module that receives a disconnection request for the at least one first connection from the at least one terminal.

13.   The system of claim 12, further comprising a disconnecting module that disconnects the at least one first connection.

14.   The system of claim 13, further comprising a connection sustaining module that 15   sustains the at least one second connection after the at least one first connection has been disconnected.

15.   The system of claim 11, wherein the record is a list of established second connections.

16.   A processor readable medium comprising processor readable code for caching a 20   network connection, comprising:

connection request receiving code that causes a processor to receive a connection

request for at least one first connection between at least one terminal and a server;

connection establishing code that causes a processor to establish the at least one

first connection between the at least one terminal and the server;

5   connection requesting code that causes a processor to request at least one second

connection between the server and at least one end device;

connection establishing code that causes a processor to establish the at least one

second connection; and

connection maintaining code that causes a processor to maintain a record of the at

10   least one second connection established.

17.   The medium of claim 16, further comprising disconnection request receiving code

that causes a processor to receive a disconnection request for the at least one first

connection from the at least one terminal.

18.   The medium of claim 17, further comprising connection disconnecting code that

15   causes a processor to disconnect the at least one first connection.

19.   The medium of claim 18, further comprising connection sustaining code that

causes a processor to sustain the at least one second connection after the at least one first

connection has been disconnected.

20.   The medium of claim 16, wherein the record is a list of established second

20   connections.